



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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November 6, 2012

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE:

PR-3

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Gail Farber *Gail Farber*
Director of Public Works

THE COUNTYWIDE BATTLE OF THE SCHOOLS WASTE REDUCTION COMPETITION RECOGNITION REQUEST

Each year, as part of its Generation Earth environmental education program, the Department of Public Works conducts the Battle of the Schools (BOS) Waste Reduction and Recycling Competition. We are pleased to report that 58 schools participated in this year's BOS competition, and the total student population reached was 110,542. To honor the top five schools that diverted the most waste from their campus, we are respectfully requesting a scroll presentation at a Board of Supervisors meeting on December 4, 2012.

This year's competition was conducted from February 1, 2012, through May 1, 2012. Students conducted campus waste audits to determine a baseline for their current campus waste generation. Throughout the two-week reporting period, students developed and promoted their program and monitored their waste generation, reduction, and diversion.

At the end of the reporting period, data was calculated to determine the net waste diverted per school as well as the average pound reduction per capita on campus. Attached is specific information on the top five schools that diverted the most waste in each Supervisorial District.

Over 7,000 students from the top five schools were reached during the Fiscal Year 2011-12 competition. Through this competition, students were challenged to take an active role in preserving the environment and conserving natural resources as they gained an understanding of the urban waste cycle, waste management issues, and solutions to divert waste from landfills.

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We would appreciate the opportunity to speak to you and your staff to arrange the scroll presentation for the competition recipients, and we will gladly provide wording for the scrolls.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Emma L. Ayala, Public Relations Group, at (626) 458-4093.

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Attach.

cc: Chief Executive Office
Executive Office

2011-2012 Battle of the Schools Competition

**District 1: Esteban E. Torres High School Academies
Humanitas Academy of Art and Technology
4211 Dozier Street, Los Angeles CA 90063**

The Humanitas Academy of Art and Technology at Esteban E. Torres High School was a first-year participant in the Battle of the Schools Competition. During the 2011-2012 academic year, the Academy created an environmental club for students to participate in developing sustainable practices on this new campus. The club focused on establishing a recycling campaign for aluminum cans, bottles, and mixed paper. Students also planned an electronic waste event for the entire school, which included planning, promoting, assisting in the event, and encouraging the local community to become involved. The environmental club looks forward to expanding their recycling efforts to the other academies within Esteban E. Torres High School during the 2012-2013 school year. Overall, the school diverted 3,231 pounds of materials (9 pounds per student) during the reporting period.

**District 2: Jefferson High School
1319 East 41st Street, Los Angeles CA 90011**

A variety of student clubs (Key Club, Leadership Club, and Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps) led Jefferson High School to winning the Battle of the Schools Competition for Supervisorial District 2. The school has a multifaceted recycling program, including recycling mixed paper, cardboard, bottles, aluminum cans, and Styrofoam. Students identified that the use of Styrofoam trays was a large contributor to their waste stream. Working with the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, students collected those trays into a separate bin to be recycled. Also, Jefferson High School has an active composting program that utilizes campus food waste for their gardens and fruit orchards. Students in the garden club assist with composting the materials. A supportive school community, including teachers, administrators, and facility personnel, assists the students' environmental efforts to achieve success. Overall, the school diverted 6,150 pounds of materials (3.02 pounds per student) during the reporting period.

District 3: Palisades Charter High School
15777 Bowdoin Street, Pacific Palisades CA 90702

Palisades Charter High School has continued to refine their recycling program over the past three years. This is the second consecutive year Palisades Charter High School has received this award. During the 2012 competition period, the students expanded their reach and promoted recycling and reusing to not only students and teachers but to parents and the local community. The school collected and diverted plastic; bottles; aluminum cans; mixed paper; cardboard; batteries; clothing; and electronic waste, such as cell phones and cell phone chargers. Overall, the school diverted 9,702 pounds of materials (3.38 pounds per student) during the reporting period.

District 4: Hughes Middle School
3846 California Avenue, Long Beach CA 90807

Hughes Middle School continues to expand their efforts to create a sustainable campus. As a third-year award recipient, students have incorporated larger and more innovative projects on their campus over the past five years. Students take the lead in all aspects of promoting, developing, building, and monitoring their campus programs. During the competition period, Hughes Middle School diverted cardboard; mixed paper; shredded paper; bottles; aluminum cans; wood waste; clothing; food waste; plant materials; grass; batteries; and electronic waste, such as cell phones. Overall, the school diverted 37,768 pounds of materials (26.23 pounds per student) during the reporting period.

District 5: San Gabriel Christian School
117 North Pine Street, San Gabriel CA 91775

San Gabriel Christian School has been diverting waste and recycling at their campus for the past 11 years. For the second consecutive year, San Gabriel Christian School is the recipient of this award. The school hosted a community electronic waste collection event, which has grown each year and has become an annual collection event that the community looks forward to and supports. During the competition period, San Gabriel Christian School diverted bottles; aluminum cans; and electronic waste, such as cell phones. Overall, the school diverted 11,763 pounds of materials (21.78 pounds per student) during the reporting period.